

August 27, 2013

Dear Parent(s):

This letter is designed to bring the following classroom information to your attention:

### **Handwriting Without Tears**

Adams Elementary School has adopted a new handwriting curriculum for kindergarten this year. This handwriting curriculum is “Handwriting Without Tears (HWT).” It was developed by Jan Olsen, a registered Occupational Therapist, to make handwriting easier for children.

The advantages of the HWT style are:

- It follows developmental principles
- It enables ease of reading and writing.
- It prevents reversals.
- It looks child friendly.
- It features letter models with an appealing, handwritten quality.
- Its vertical print uses only 4 simple shapes
- Its vertical print is simple and straight.
- Its vertical print is neater and holds up better in use.

### **Handwriting Without Tears Letter and Number Style**

HWT uses a simple, continuous, vertical stroke that is easy to learn. The HWT letter style is also familiar because it looks like the letters and words children see and read every day. The continuous stroke style prevents reversals and prepares children for a smooth transition to cursive in third grade.

Attached is a copy of the HWT letter and number formations for you to use and reinforce with your child at home.

Thanks for your support,

Mr. Washburn